GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6983
ANSWERED ON:13.05.2002
RECOGNITION OF RAIN HARVESTING AS SOURCE OF WATER
T.T.V. DHINAKARAN

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recognised rain water harvesting as a source of water;

(b) if so, the steps taken to encourage the same in the country; and

(c) the annual water harvesting potential in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SMT. BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) With a view to encourage rain water harvesting in the country, the Central Ground Water Board under the Ministry of Water Resources has implemented a Central Sector Scheme for Study of Recharge to Ground Water on "pilot basis" during the IX Five Year Plan. 174 schemes were approved under this scheme in various parts of the country during IX Five Year Plan. This scheme is proposed to be extended during the X Five Year Plan. The Central Ground Water Authority is conducting mass awareness and training programmes all over the country to encourage rain water harvesting.

(c) As per estimate made by the Central Ground Water Board, 36453 million cubic metres of surplus monsoon rainwater can be stored annually in underground aquifers to recharge ground water.